

Playlist Format Reference



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The playlist is a Science On a Sphere construct for organizing and grouping together content for a presentation. Playlists are analogous to a playlist on an MP3 player. Playlists are simple text files and are read and interpreted by the main SOS application interface.

Definitions to help with the playlist reference documentation (additional definitions can be found in the SOS User Manual):

1. **Dataset (or Clip)** – A packaged collection of coherent content, which may include multiple layers, time stamps, legends, labels, etc.
 1. **Texture** – A single, static image on the sphere that rotates
 2. **Time series** – animates through time and by default doesn't rotate. Can be an image sequence or a mpeg4
 1. **Image sequence** – a directory of images (also called image frames) that are played in sequence
 2. **MPEG4** – the only video format accepted by SOS
2. **Playlist.sos** – A text file that specifies (via keyword/value pairs) how a dataset should be displayed on the sphere. Each dataset must have its own playlist.sos file
3. **Presentation playlist** – A collection of datasets grouped together in a list for a presentation

Playlist Keywords Reference

- [Playlist Format Reference - Version 5.0+](#)
- [Playlist Format Reference - Version 4.3+](#)
- [Playlist Format Reference - Version 4.1+](#)
- [Playlist Format Reference - Version 4.0+](#)

Examples of Dataset Playlists

The following are examples of playlist.sos files for individual datasets that can be found in the /shared/sos/media directory.

```
name = Hot Topo (Wild Fires)
creator = NOAA
publisher = NOAA
category = land
keywords = land, topography, bathymetry, ngdc, etopo2
data = /sos/media/hot_1800/P1
audio = /shared/sos/media/audio/CoupeStudios/Music/Topography.mp3
fps = 30
```

```
name = Pip Style Globe
data = /shared/sos/media/land/blue_marble/blue_marble/2048.jpg
pip = /shared/sos/media/extras/noaa_logo/NOAA-Transparent-Logo.png
pipstyle = globe
pipcoords = 41,-105
pipheight = 10
piptimer = 0
```

```
name = IPCC GFDL TEMP
data = /shared/sos/media/models/ipcc_temp/gfdl/gfdl_temp_change.mp4
fps = 30
```

```
zrotationangle=0.1
zrotationenable=1
zfps=30
label = default
```

Example of a Presentation Playlist

The following is an example of a presentation playlist that contains multiple datasets. This playlist would be located in the the sosrc directory on the SOS computer. Note that any line preceeded by a "#" symbol is a comment.

```
include = /shared/sos/media/land/blue_marble/blue_marble/playlist.sos

include = /shared/sos/media/astronomy/mars/original/playlist.sos

# Here, we are setting the frames per second to 20.
include = /shared/sos/media/oceans/chile_tsunami/playlist.sos
fps=20

include = /shared/sos/media/oceans/japan_tsunami_waves/combo/playlist.sos
stopframe = 487
```

Example of a Presentation Playlist with Presenter Notes

As of SOS version 4.3.0, Presenter Notes may be added to any presentation playlist file. Presenter notes are accessed from the iPad's SOS Remote app's Presentation tab, and can be edited either from the app's Playlist Builder tab, or manually using a text editor. If editing a playlist file manually, each line that is to be a presenter note should begin with "#>". Presenter note lines should go at the very bottom of the presentation playlist. Following is an example.

One thing to note is that if you add presenter notes to a presentation playlist manually and then open them in the iPad app's Playlist Builder and make edits, any normal comment lines (lines that begin with a "#" symbol) that were originally in the playlist will get deleted.

```
include = /shared/sos/media/land/blue_marble/blue_marble/playlist.sos

include = /shared/sos/media/astronomy/mars/original/playlist.sos

#> Features to note about blue marble:
#> - Vastness of the Sahara Desert
#> - Shading done in true color: gives Earth's appearance from space
#>
#> Features to note about mars:
#> - Olympus Mons: highest point in the solar system at 88,500 feet
```